

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9246

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: ARA NARCOTICS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 227838

1. AS SEEN FROM ECUADOR, THE PROBLEM OF GOALS OF OUR NARCOTICS EFFORT IS NOT AMBIGUOUS. OUR GOAL IS TO ELIMINATE, TO EXTENT HUMANLY POSSIBLE, ILLEGAL TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS. WE HAVE FOUND THAT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES WE SHOULD DEFINE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IS THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM IN ECUADOR, E.G., APPROXIMATE VOLUME OF COCAINE BEING EXPORTED, AND AMOUNT OF HEROIN, IF ANY, ORIGINATING IN ECUADOR. OTHER OBJECTIVES SEEM STRAIGHTFORWARD, SUCH AS THOSE SET FORTH IN NARCOTICS PRO AG WORK PROGRAM, WHICH IS ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE ECUADOREAN DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY. LIKEWISE WE HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON IMPORTANCE OF HEIGHTENING OF LOCAL AWARENESS OF DRUG ABUSE DANGER AND STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPRESS NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. A POSSIBLE DISADVANTAGE OF QUANTIFYING GOALS, AT LEAST AT LEVEL OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY OPERATIONS, IS THAT IT COULD LEAD TO SCORECARD APPROACH TO EVALUATING PROGRAMS WITH ATTENDANT RISKS OF SETTING UNREALISTIC GOALS AND

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GENERATING UNREALISTIC REPORTING. WE AGREE THAT PRO-

GRAMS MUST BE MEASURED BY THEIR RESULTS BUT TOO CLOSE ADHERENCE TO A SCORECARD CAN LEAD TO OVER-SIMPLIFICATION OF PROBLEM AND THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO DEAL WITH IT.

2. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THIS CONFERENCE COULD DEAL, TO THE EXTENT DIFFERING COUNTRIES' SITUATIONS PERMIT, WITH PROBLEMS AT THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL. AMONG THESE WOULD BE:

- A. EXTENT TO WHICH NARCOTICS COORDINATOR SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN ENFORCEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES.
 - B. EXTENT TO WHICH OTHER AGENCIES CAN PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.
 - C. EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE RELATION BETWEEN INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT.
 - D. CLEAR UP DUPLICATION OF REPORTING BY EMBASSY, DEA AND AID.
 - E. EFFECT OF PHASE-OUT OF USAID PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS ON NARCOTICS EFFORT.
 - F. REDUCTION OF PAPERWORK REQUIRED OF ALL AGENCIES PARTICIPATING IN EFFORT.
 - G. OCCASIONAL OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE ON BOTH INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT SIDE TO ASSIST/EMBASSY NCC TO IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS IN LOCAL PROGRAM.
- BREWSTER

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